

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

The Black Stallion

Author:

Walter Farley

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
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How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

Chapter 4: The Black is a wild stallion, but Alec keeps trying to get close to him. What does Alec do that helps the horse start to trust him?

Example answer: I think Alec helps the Black trust him by being patient and not giving up. He does not treat the horse like a machine or try to force him too much. Alec watches the Black carefully and learns what makes him scared or calm. This shows that trust takes time, especially with an animal that has been wild and frightened.

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 12: In horse racing, training means helping a horse build skill, strength, and discipline. How does the training change the Black or Alec?

Example answer: The training changes Alec because he becomes more serious and responsible. He has to listen to Henry and learn how to work with the Black instead of just riding for fun. The Black also starts to use his power in a more controlled way. I think their bond gets stronger because they are working toward the same goal.

Chapter 18: By the end of the story, what lesson does Alec's journey with the Black teach about trust, courage, or friendship?

Example answer: By the end of the story, I think Alec's journey teaches that real friendship is built through trust. Alec and the Black survive dangerous times because they learn to depend on each other. Alec is brave, but he also respects the Black and believes in him. To me, the story shows that courage is easier when you are not facing challenges alone.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: Alec is drawn to the mysterious black horse on the ship. What details show that the horse is both dangerous and special?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Chapter 18: By the end of the story, what lesson does Alec’s journey with the Black teach about trust, courage, or friendship?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Chapter 17: During the race, Alec has to stay brave and focused. What actions show his courage and trust in the Black?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: During the storm and shipwreck, Alec has to make quick choices. Which choice do you think matters most, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: When Alec reaches the island, what problems does he need to solve first? How does he begin to take care of himself?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Chapter 16: Before the big race, how does the author build excitement or nervousness for the reader?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Chapter 15: The adults must decide whether the Black should race famous horses. What risks and rewards do they have to think about?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: The Black is a wild stallion, but Alec keeps trying to get close to him. What does Alec do that helps the horse start to trust him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: Choose one survival skill Alec uses on the island. How does this skill help him stay alive and keep hope?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Chapter 14: The word speed can mean more than just moving fast. What does the Black's speed mean to Alec and Henry?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Chapter 13: Henry shares more about his past with horses. How does learning about Henry’s past change the way you see him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: How does Alec’s relationship with the Black change when he rides him? Use details to explain Alec’s feelings.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7: If you were Alec on the island, what would you predict might happen next after he and the Black become closer? What clues support your prediction?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Chapter 12: In horse racing, training means helping a horse build skill, strength, and discipline. How does the training change the Black or Alec?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Chapter 11: Alec rides the Black at night instead of in front of everyone. Why does secrecy matter in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Chapter 8: Rescue brings safety, but it also brings new problems. What challenges does Alec face when people try to help him and the Black?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Chapter 9: When Alec returns home, how do his family and neighbors react to the Black? What does this show about how unusual the horse is?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Chapter 10: Henry Dailey becomes important to Alec and the Black. What kind of person is Henry, and how can you tell?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
